



Fort Sam Houston

News Leader[®]



Vol. 36, No. 8

Fort Sam Houston — Home of Army Medicine

February 27, 2003

Briefs

Foulois Flight Ceremony, Feb. 28

A ceremony to commemorate the 93rd Anniversary of the Foulois Flight will be held Feb. 28, 11 a.m. at the Garrison flagpole.

NCO Graduation, March 4

The public is invited to the U.S. AMEDD Basic NCO Course Class 013, BNCOC Graduation, March 4, 9 a.m. at the Blesse Auditorium, Bldg. 2841 on Stanley Road.

AUSA Luncheon, March 18

The Association of the U.S. Army will host a luncheon March 18, 11:30 a.m. at the FSH NCO Club. Keynote speaker is Maj. Gen. Alfred Valenzuela, commander U.S. Army South. See unit sergeant major for ticket information.

AMEDD Center and School Leadership Call, March 18

The AMEDD Center and School will conduct leadership call on March 18, 3 p.m. at Blesse Auditorium. Keynote speaker is Brig. Gen. Eduardo Arriagada, former Surgeon General of Chile.

FSH National Prayer Breakfast, March 20

The FSH National Prayer Breakfast will be held March 20, 7 a.m. in the NCO Club Ballroom. Chaplain (Brig. Gen.) David Hicks, Deputy Chief of Chaplains, will be the keynote speaker. Tickets will be available to the unit NCOICs.



Photo by Ed Dixon

Troops bid farewell to Aplin, welcome Clark as new MEDCOM CSM

By Esther Garcia
Fort Sam Houston Public Affairs

Army Surgeon General and U.S. Army Medical Command commander Lt. Gen. James B. Peake was host and reviewing officer for a ceremony honoring outgoing Medical Command's Command Sgt. Maj. James Aplin and incoming Command Sgt. Maj. Jack Clark Feb. 19 at MacArthur parade field. Commander of troops for the NCO led change of responsibility and retirement ceremony was Command Sgt. Maj. Sandra Townsend, Army Medical Department Center and School and Fort Sam Houston.

Incoming Command Sergeant Major Jack L. Clark, Jr.

Command Sgt. Maj. Jack L. Clark, Jr. entered the U.S. Army on June 27, 1973. He attended Basic Training at Fort Knox, Ky. He received his medical occupational specialty training at Fort Sam Houston, Texas, and Airborne School training at Fort Benning, Ga.

Clark's overseas assignments include one tour

See **MEDCOM CSM** on Page 3

Lt. Gen. James Peake, Army Surgeon General and commander, U.S. Army Medical Command, transfers the MEDCOM color to Command Sgt. Maj. Jack Clark, Jr., during a Change of Responsibility ceremony held at MacArthur parade field on Feb. 19. At far right is outgoing Command Sgt. Maj. James Aplin.

Molino: DoD has 'Great Sensitivity' for family needs during deployments

By Gerry J. Gilmore
American Forces Press Service

Service members deployed worldwide in the war against terrorism should know that DoD expends great effort in providing support services for their families at home.

DoD learned a lot about family support after U.S. troop deployments to the Middle East during the Persian Gulf War and later military operations in Somalia,

Haiti, and the Balkans, said John M. Molino, deputy undersecretary of defense for military community and family policy.

DoD is putting its accumulated knowledge to use for military families during today's war against global terrorism, he said. Designated support activities at installations around the globe, he said, are assisting the families of troops deployed to Afghanistan, and to the Middle East as part of preparations for

possible war with Iraq.

"We are sensitive to what families could need in the event of the deployment of a service member," Molino remarked, adding DoD tries hard to anticipate family members' concerns. For instance, he said, available support includes:

- Increased childcare to meet increased needs during deployments.
- Spousal employment assistance to address concerns and complications arising from deployments.

ing from deployments.

- Budget planning and counseling.
- Counseling and assistance for other family issues, such as deployment anxiety, alcohol and drug abuse, and violence.

"We have support programs from schools all the way to base family assistance centers to make deployment separations and reunions easier transitions,

See **Molino** on Page 3

AMEDD salutes 'DUSTOFF' heroes

By Esther Garcia
Fort Sam Houston Public Affairs

Saturday was a big day and a beautiful day for the Army Medical Department Museum as more than 250 DUSTOFF pilots, crew members and their families gathered to witness the Army Medical Department Museum officially accept a Korean War vintage H-13 "Sioux" helicopter; the 2003 DUSTOFF Hall of Fame induction ceremony; the unveiling of the DUSTOFF Hall of Fame Wall; and the dedication of DUSTOFF memorial pavers to those killed in action.

U.S. Army retired Brig. Gen. Charles Elia, Army Medical Department Museum Foundation, presented the official documents on behalf of Maj. Gen. Floyd Baker, Chairman of the Board, AMEDD Museum Foundation, donating the H-13 Helicopter to Brig. Gen.

Richard Ursone, Assistant Surgeon General/Deputy Chief of Staff for Force Sustainment, U.S. Army Medical Command, and to Tom McMasters, curator, AMEDD Museum.

"To you brave and courageous pilots of the DUSTOFF Association, members of the Army Medical Department Foundation, I salute your many heroic contributions to saving the lives of our fighting forces. You truly fit the Army Medical Department motto, 'To Conserve the Fighting Strength'," said Elia. The H-13 was known as the "Angel of Mercy" flying wounded soldiers off Korean battlefields to the famous MASH units. The H-13 was placed next to the UH-1 "Huey" in the museum outdoor exhibit pergola. Both aircrafts were acquired with the support of the AMEDD Museum Foundation, Inc.

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Photo by Georgette Toschok

Left to right, Brig. Gen. Charles Elia, U.S. Army retired, AMEDD Museum Foundation, congratulates Brig. Gen. Richard Ursone, Assistant Surgeon General/Deputy Chief of Staff for Force Sustainment, U.S. Army Medical Command, following the donation of the H-13 Helicopter to the AMEDD Museum. Tom McMasters, center, is the curator for the AMEDD Museum.

ABC-TV spotlights the people of U.S. Armed Forces

By Jim Garamone
American Forces Press Service

The men and women who make up America's military will be featured on an ABC-TV production entitled "Profiles from the Front Line" beginning Feb. 27.

The series will run at 8 p.m. EST Thursdays through April 6.

The Defense Department gave the producers of the show access to operations in Afghanistan and around the world. The show is part of ABC's entertainment division. ABC News did not participate.

"Profiles" is cast as a "reality" show, but it's not a "Survivor: Afghanistan." There are no contrived situations, contests or actors.

"These are real people, doing real missions in a real war," said Vicente Ogilvie, deputy special assistant for entertainment media in the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Public Affairs. The show also places a spotlight on America's "shadow warriors" -- special operations forces.

While the coalition bombing of Afghanistan helped the Northern Alliance at the beginning of the conflict in the country in October 2001, only when special operations forces arrived on the ground did the tide turn against the Taliban.

"The fight to topple the Taliban was waged on the ground by less than 500 Special Forces personnel," Marshall Billingslea, principal deputy assistant

defense secretary for special operations and low-intensity conflict, said Oct. 16, 2002. "They mounted an unconventional warfare effort tied closely to indigenous forces and linked with the United States Air Force in a way that provided for a rapid and crushing defeat of the Taliban's conventional forces."

Hollywood producer Jerry Bruckheimer, who did the movies "Black Hawk Down" and "Pearl Harbor," and the television show "CSI: Crime Scene Investigation," is the executive producer of the profile series.

The series started filming in April 2002 and wrapped in October. At one point 16, three-man crews were working around the world. In addition to covering members of the 3rd and 19th Special

Forces groups in Afghanistan, the teams also videotaped members of the 82nd Airborne Division as they deployed to Central Asia.

They also caught sailors of the cruiser USS Hue City during maritime intercept operations in the Arabian Sea, submariners of the USS Salt Lake City, carrier operations aboard the USS John F. Kennedy, medics at various hospitals, and food service specialists.

Ogilvie said service members tell their own stories. While the producers put some images to music, no scripts or narrations were used in the series. "This program highlights the dedication, professionalism and patriotism of the men and women of the armed forces," he said.

Fort Sam Houston News Leader

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MEDCOM CSM

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in Germany and one in Panama.

Highlights of Clark's assignments include first sergeant for Headquarters, Headquarters, Company, 142nd Medical Battalion, Panama; Senior clinical NCO of Patterson Army Community Hospital, Fort Monmouth, N.J.; sergeant major of Keller Army Community Hospital, West Point, N.Y., Madigan Army Medical Center and Western Regional Medial Command, Fort Lewis, Wash., Walter Reed Army Medical Center and the North Atlantic Regional Medical Command, Washington, D.C.

Clark deployed with the 82nd Airborne Division from Fort Bragg, N.C., during Operation Urgent Fury, Operation Just Cause, and Operations Desert Storm and Desert Shield. Other assignments included duty with the 10th Mountain Division, Fort Drum, N.Y. and Western Regional Medical Command, Fort Lewis, Wash.

Clark attended numerous Army schools to include Airborne School, Noncommissioned Officer Academy, the Advanced Noncommissioned Officer course, the First Sergeant course, the Sergeants Major Academy, Class 44, and the Command Sergeants Major course. He holds a degree in health services from Methodist College.

Clark's awards and decorations include: the Combat Medic Badge, Expert Field Medic Badge, Parachutist Badge, Legion of Merit, three Meritorious Service Medals, four Army Commendation Medals, and the Order of Military Medical Merit.

As command sergeant major for the U.S. Army Medical Command, Clark assumes responsibility for the policies and standards on performance, training, appearance, and conduct of enlisted personnel assigned to MEDCOM. He serves as advisor to the commander and staff in matters pertaining to enlisted personnel.

Outgoing Command Sergeant Major James Aplin

Command Sgt. Maj. James Aplin entered military service in May 1975. He graduated

from the Sergeants Major Academy in 1992. He served in all enlisted leadership positions from a squad leader to command sergeant major.

His previous assignments include: medic; operating room noncommissioned officer in charge; surgical technology instructor; platoon sergeant, first sergeant; battalion command sergeant major; brigade-level command sergeant major, command sergeant major, Pacific Regional Medical Command; and command sergeant major, Great Plains Regional Medical Command.

Aplin's stateside assignments include: 4th Combat Support Hospital and U.S. Army Medical Activity, Fort McClellan, Ala.; Academy of Health Sciences and Brooke Army Medical Center, Fort Sam Houston, Texas; Madigan Army Medical Center, Fort Lewis, Wash.; 21st Combat Support Hospital, Fort Hood, Texas; U.S. Army Medical Activity, West Point, N.Y.; and Great Plains Regional Medical Command, Fort Sam Houston, Texas.

His overseas tours include: 97th General Hospital and the 51st Combat Support Hospital, both in Frankfurt, Germany; Pacific Regional Medical Command and Tripler Army Medical Center, Honolulu, Hawaii.

Aplin's numerous awards and decorations include: the Legion of Merit; Meritorious Service Medal with seven oak leaf clusters; Army Commendation Medal with one oak leaf cluster; Army Achievement Medal; Good Conduct Medal (8th award); Noncommissioned Officer's Development Ribbon with numeral 4; National Defense Service Ribbon; Army Service Ribbon; and Overseas Service Ribbon with numeral 3.

In 1977, Aplin was recognized as Fort McClellan's U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command Soldier of the Year and is the recipient of the Order of Military Medical Merit. He has a Master of Arts degree in Human Resource Management from Hawaii Pacific University.



Photos by Ed Dixon
Above, left to right, Lt. Gen. James Peake presents the Distinguished Service Medal to outgoing MEDCOM Command Sgt. Maj. James Aplin during the Change of Responsibility ceremony. Kathy Aplin was presented the Outstanding Civilian Service Medal.



Left to right, Incoming MEDCOM Command Sgt. Maj. Jack Clark, Jr. and outgoing Command Sgt. Maj. James Aplin at the Change of Responsibility and Retirement Ceremony held at MacArthur parade field Feb. 19.

Molino

Continued from Page 1

easier times, although we recognize they're very stressful," he said.

Technology has advanced in leaps and bounds in the 12 years since the Gulf War, he said. It has greatly enhanced today's military family support programs even as it has raised those families' expectations, Molino remarked.

"Service members who are deployed don't necessarily believe they should be 'cut off' from contact with their families," he said. DoD responds, for example, by making e-mail and instant-messaging services available to members and their

families, he noted.

Some Navy bases go even further and offer video-teleconferencing capabilities, he continued. "Usually by appointment, the family can come into a family center stateside, set themselves up, and then see their loved one over a video- teleconferencing facility aboard ship.

"There are many stories that come out of deployments where a service member sees his child for the first time in a video-teleconference. It's very, very moving," Molino added.

It's important for family members to realize that anxiety is normal when mili-

tary members deploy, he emphasized. Today's U.S. military has top-notch people, training and equipment, "but it's still natural to be a little bit nervous about what is happening and what might happen," he pointed out.

Consequently, in today's era of multiple military deployments, DoD offers support programs for service members and their families, Molino said.

One such program, Marine Corps Community Services' One Source, offers active duty and reserve Marines and their families around-the-clock referral services via toll-free phone number: (800) 433-

6868 in the continental United States and (800) 237-42374 overseas. One Source also has a Website at www.mccsone-source.com that can be accessed only after establishing a user name and password by calling the appropriate toll-free phone number.

Molino also urged people to contact their local family support officials if they have trouble dealing with deployments.

"Don't feel stigmatized, as if somehow you're less than capable, less than strong," Molino said. "There is nothing wrong with getting a little help."

Former Academy Life Insurance Policyholders may be eligible for payments

By Sgt. 1st Class Doug Sample
American Forces Press Service

The Academy Life Insurance Company seeks immediate contact with an estimated 110,000 current and former service members who may be eligible to receive payments from a fund established as part of a settlement it reached with the Justice Department December 19, 2002.

Colonel Steve Strong, director of legal policy in the Office of the Undersecretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness, said the insurance company will mail notices and payment applications to the last address it has for thousands of former policyholders it

believes are eligible. Notices were mailed by Feb. 24, he added.

Eligible persons have until June 24 to file, he said. After that deadline, applications won't be considered, Strong emphasized.

The payments of up to \$200 per policy are part of a \$160 million settlement reached after the Justice Department filed a civil complaint against Academy Life for defrauding service members from 1991 to 1998. The complaint alleged the insurers sold more than 92,000 policies of a particular life insurance plan to service members and their families between 1993 and 1998 and reaped more than \$200 million in premiums. Academy Life has not admitted to

any improper act.

As part of the settlement the company will pay more than \$2.7 million to persons who purchased their policies from 1991 to 1998.

Academy Life also agreed in the settlement to never again sell another insurance policy in the United States or ask DoD for permission to conduct business on U.S. military installations. The Defense Department in 1998 barred the company from doing business on military installations for three years.

Strong said former policyholders must meet all the following conditions to be eligible for payment from the settlement fund:

The person was the last owner of a

Genesis Series policy issued from January 1, 1991, through December 31, 1998.

The policy terminated prior to September 30, 2002.

No death benefit was paid under the policy.

The person was living on September 30, 2002.

The person accurately completes an application for payment and mails it to Academy Life by June 24.

Academy Life verifies eligibility. For more information on eligibility requirements or a notice and application, call Academy Life at toll free (800) 523-5625.



Photos by Master Sgt. C.S. Allbright

Above, members of the Gonzales family pose after the promotion ceremony. Left to right, Alex, Nick, Celestino and Daniel.

Left, newly promoted Lt. Col. Nick Gonzales returns a salute from his father, retired Sgt. Maj. Celestino Gonzales.

All in the family -- legacy of 100 years of Army service

Story by Master Sgt. C.S. Allbright
Fifth U.S. Army Public Affairs

Despite its appearance as a simple promotion ceremony, an event on Feb. 7 represented one American family's tradition of 100 years of combined service to the nation spanning across three generations.

Nick C. Gonzales, 39, was promoted to lieutenant colonel at Fifth U.S. Army Headquarters on Fort Sam Houston, continuing a legacy of service. He is currently the plans and policy chief for G-3 Training at Fifth Army. Pinning on his new rank insignia were his wife, Regina, and his father, Celestino Gonzales, a retired Army sergeant major and decorated Vietnam War veteran. The spirit of the newly promoted officer's grandfather was also in the room.

Ruperto "Bob" Gonzales, who died in 1989, started the family's military tradition during World War II. Bob Gonzales joined the Army in 1943 from San Jon, a small farming community in eastern New Mexico, to serve in the Aleutian Islands during the war. He completed his service in 1947. Five of Bob Gonzales' six sons served in the Army. "He started the tradition, my father continued the fine tradition and now I'm carrying it on," Nick Gonzales said. "He was very patriotic. He always preached the need to support and defend the country. He'd say, 'we have a great country, and we must do everything to protect it'."

With his father and uncles in the Army, Nick Gonzales was raised surrounded by the backdrop of military communities at Fort Bragg, N.C., Germany and Okinawa.

"Being born a military brat, it was almost ingrained in us. I can remember being a young kid -- 3 or 4 years old -- and running around playing army," Nick Gonzales said. "It grew in our blood."

Celestino Gonzales served in the Army from 1956 through 1986, including two tours in Vietnam as an infantryman. The airborne, air-assault qualified soldier and recipient of the Combat Infantryman's Badge received two Bronze Stars and other decorations for his service before retiring as a sergeant



Courtesy photo

Ruperto "Bob" Gonzales in his World War II Army uniform.

major. His final assignment was with the Reserve Officer Training Corps at Eastern New Mexico University in Portales, N.M.

Moving "home" to New Mexico was good for Celestino and Maria Gonzales and their seven children. All of their children, four boys and three girls, attended the university, which was two blocks from their home. All four boys either served or are currently serving in the Army in some capacity.

Victor Gonzales, 41, is in the Texas Army National Guard, and recently completed a year at Fort Sam Houston supporting Homeland Security efforts.

Daniel Gonzales, 29, is with the Army Reserves in Ogden, Utah. He was deployed for the 2002 Winter Olympics and recently came off active-duty status.

Alex Gonzales, 24, is an active duty, ordnance second lieutenant at 1st U.S. Cavalry Division at Fort Hood. When Alex was commissioned, it was older brother Nick who officiated his commissioning ceremony.

It was at Alex's commissioning that the Gonzales family totaled up the number of years of Army service. Starting with Ruperto and his sons, and then Celestino and his sons, the number was well over 100 years.

The girls, Theresa and Tina and Veronica, are also closely tied to the military. Theresa's husband served in the



Courtesy photo

Celestino Gonzales as a staff sergeant in the 1960s. He retired in 1986 as a sergeant major.

Air Force and is a Gulf War veteran. Veronica's husband is a captain in the Army Reserve. Siblings Daniel, Alex and Tina were among the family members and friends in attendance at the promotion ceremony. "Today is a memory that will last forever. It gives me and our entire family a sense of pride," Daniel Gonzales said. Tina said that her family was taught that their blood "runs red, white and blue." She said recent talk of war is "scary." Although she doesn't want her brothers to go to war, "I know that's what they trained for and if there's a war, that's what they'll set their sights on," she said.

Even though the Army way was dominant in the Gonzales family, young Nick gave few indicators about his future military aspirations, his father said. "When Nick was a kid," Celestino Gonzales said, "he had long hair and bought a motorcycle with the money he earned mowing yards." The father described him as not much interested in service. Celestino Gonzales' first real indication that Nick was serious about going Army was when he was in college and enrolled in the ROTC program.

After attending Eastern New Mexico University, Nick Gonzales received his Army commission in 1985 as an armored cavalry officer. Like his father, Nick Gonzales and two of his brothers

are airborne qualified. After serving as a tank platoon leader, he switched to the quartermaster branch. He also served as a liaison officer with the Navy during the Kosovo crisis.

"I have had a unique career," Nick Gonzales said. "I started out as an armor officer, went quartermaster, then went back to an airborne unit, and then was basically in the Navy for 12 months aboard a ship. I went from firing tanks to jumping out of planes to sailing on ships."

One of the most rewarding events of his career involved his service in Kosovo from June 1998 through July 1999. After the Kosovo air war was ramping down, Nick Gonzales was involved in designing plans for humanitarian relief. He led the planning team for humanitarian relief for Kosovo, the 39-year-old officer said. They were responsible for food drops and building tent cities for refugees.

"It was neat because you knew you were doing something good for mankind -- you were helping those who were in need by giving them the basic essentials, food, water, shelter," Nick Gonzales said. "That's the reason you join the Army -- to help mankind and to defend your country and things of that nature. I actually got to do some of that stuff first hand, and that was definitely rewarding."

With his promotion, Nick Gonzales becomes the highest-ranking member of his family. "He's top of the line," Celestino Gonzales said, "I think it's well deserved. He's setting the course for the rest of his brothers."

"I feel very proud to follow in my Dad's footsteps by being a part of our great Army and being able to achieve that rank. I also know that I didn't do it by myself. It was only possible through a team effort of not only the great people I worked with throughout the years, but also a lot of great support from my wife and family."

The newly promoted lieutenant colonel plans to stay in the military at least another six years before settling down in the San Antonio-area with his wife and three children, Nicole, 13, Amanda, 9, and Erica, 6.

Pet fostering offers deploying troops new option

By Harry Noyes
U.S. Army Medical Command Public Affairs

For the harried soldier, scurrying to wrap up a thousand details before deploying to an unknown future, pet abandonment is a decision born of desperation and fraught with guilt.

For a frightened, bewildered animal suddenly ripped from a secure and comfortable home and thrust into a terrifying world of shelters - or worse, life as a stray on the streets - it almost always means an early death.

Moved by a love of animals and gratitude to their country's defenders, a growing number of Americans are offering an alternative scenario, pet fostering.

These stay-at-home patriots open their homes to the dogs and cats - and sometimes the rats, parrots, iguanas, boa constrictors and tarantulas - of departing soldiers who have no one else to care for their animals.

When the soldier returns, he or she gets to restart life with a beloved family member. The pet is healthy and happy...the soldier, guilt-free.

The trick is getting soldiers and foster-caregivers together and making sure that the parties (human and animal) are a good fit for each other, says Maj. Steven D. Osborn of U.S. Army Veterinary Command.

Osborn recommends beginning the search locally. Soldiers can check with

installation veterinary treatment facilities, which may be familiar with local services. But in the event a VTF does not know about any fostering service, the soldier should not give up.

Check next with local humane societies, animal-control facilities and breed clubs. If that does not turn up a suitable program, then cast a wider net regionally or even nationally. Of course, a more distant foster home involves costs for transportation of the animal, but this is a small price for owners who love their pets and feel a sense of responsibility towards them.

Several World Wide Web sites now exist to help soldiers with general advice on fostering and, or with brokering services to bring pet owners and foster-caregivers together.

These sites do not assume responsibility for the pets. Even if a site matches up pet owners and pets with potential fosterers, the pet owner is responsible for the final decision to work with a particular caregiver.

It is also the pet owners' responsibility to communicate fully and openly with foster-caregivers, to ensure both sides are comfortable and confident with arrangements, to settle all questions about expenses beforehand, and to draw up a contract outlining such details.

The pet owner is generally responsible for veterinary bills, special foods and the like. The owner may offer a gratuity

for the foster-caregiver if he or she wishes to, but most services are set up on the understanding that fostering per se is free of charge to the soldier.

Among the relevant Websites are these:

- NetPets (<http://www.netpets.org/> and click on "military pets foster project" link at top of home page), a non-profit service that says it has recruited and screened 5,000 foster-caregivers. Caregivers must provide references and contact information about their veterinarians. Founder Steve Albin phones the veterinarian before accepting a would-be fosterer. There is no charge to soldiers, who can fill in an on-line form describing their pets. Albin will then match each pet with one or more suitable foster homes. There are also links for signing up as a foster-caregiver and for donations to support the site.

- Feline Rescue (<http://www.felinerescue.net/> and click on "Operation Noble Foster" box), a non-profit that says it has

received many fostering offers. This site has a database allowing pet owners to do their own searches for suitable fosterers. Feline Rescue does not screen fosterers itself, but collects screening information for pet owners to scrutinize. In turn it asks owners to provide a "cat resume" to help the fosterer determine whether a particular cat is suitable for his or her home. The site also offers a sample contract form.

- Humane Society of the U.S. (<http://www.hsus.org/ace/11822>), which does not offer foster-brokering services but has much information to assist military pet owners, including a checklist and a sample contract form. HSUS works with other animal-protection organizations to encourage local shelters to develop fostering programs.

- 4MilitaryFamilies (<http://www.4militaryfamilies.com/pets.htm>) provides information and tips for taking care of military pets during foster care or moves.

Be aware of FSH stray animal policy

In accordance with Fort Sam Houston Regulation 40-3, stray animals are not allowed to run loose on post. Animals impounded by the military police are taken directly to San Antontio Animal Control, located at 210 Tuleta Street near Brackenridge Park and the San Antonio Zoo.

To find a lost animal, you may contact San Antonio Animal Control at 207-6660. Animals not claimed within three working days will be disposed of through adoption or euthanasia.



Soldiers from Academy Battalion receive water training

By 1st Lt. Alejandro Gonzales
Special to the News Leader

Each year many soldiers lose their lives because of their inability to manage themselves effectively in water. Thirty-seven soldiers from E Company, Academy Battalion recently received water survival training at the Jimmy Brought Fitness Center Pool.

In the ever-changing Army mission, it is not unreasonable for soldiers to negotiate water obstacles during military training. Additionally, it is unrealistic to expect that every soldier will be a proficient swimmer. However, every soldier can be trained to participate safely in military training conducted in aquatic environments. According to popular military doctrine, one of the primary ingredients of survival is the individual’s mental attitude.

The soldier in a survival environment faces many stresses that ultimately impact on their mind. These stresses can produce thoughts and emotions that, if poorly understood, can transform a confident, well-trained soldier into an indecisive, ineffective individual with questionable ability to survive.

Thus, every soldier must be aware of and be able to recognize those stresses commonly associated with survival. Additionally, it is imperative that soldiers be aware of their reactions to the wide

variety of stresses associated with survival. Water survival training will build soldiers' confidence for operations in and around water.

Sergeant Pablo Garza and Spc. Brian Sawyer instructed soldiers on various floating and swimming techniques. The instructors emphasize that being a strong swimmer is not enough for surviving in the water.

“Endurance is not enough and you need to conserve energy and remain calm,” said Sawyer.

For more than two hours the group practiced treading water, staying afloat in ways that conserved energy and oxygen, and turned clothing into floatation devices. The exercises, which were carried out under the direction of trained lifeguards were designed to help prepare the soldiers for surviving in the open water.

“Most people drown because they forget basic safety rules while they are in and around water,” said Garza. “Learning proper safety skills while swimming will lead to enjoying all types of water activities safely,” he said. “Now that the summer months are coming, it is imperative for our soldiers to be familiar with their strengths and weaknesses around the water.

The company is planning to incorporate other types of survival training in the next few months.



Photos by Spc. Linell Romiel-Charles
Above, Specialist Jeffery A. Jones conducts the 10-meter swim in full gear at the jimmy Brought Fitness Center swimming pool.

Left, Swimming instructor, Sgt. Pablo Garza shows Sgt. Tracy L. Jones and Staff Sgt. Gregory S. Watkins the proper way to float and conserve energy in the water.

Army announces new Active Component unit stop loss policy

In coordination with the Department of Defense, the Army Leadership has formulated an Active Component unit stop loss program for certain units deployed or alerted for deployment in support of operations in the U.S. Central Command Area of Responsibility. On Feb. 14, Assistant Secretary of the Army (Manpower and Reserve Affairs) Reginald J. Brown approved the new AC unit stop loss policy. This new policy does not affect Ready Reserve soldiers.

This new policy supports the stability, strengthens unit cohesiveness and teamwork of deploying active forces, and will bolster the trust and confidence of our soldiers as they prepare to deploy. Unit stop loss for identified forces deploying to CENTCOM AOR will be implemented as follows:

- Soldiers will be subject to stop loss when their unit is alerted for deployment by their higher headquarters.
- Soldiers in certain units already deployed to CENTCOM AOR will be

included under this policy.

- The current 12-month, skill-based and Reserve Component unit stop loss policies remain in effect and unchanged.
- Active Component soldiers presently affected by the Army’s 12-month, skill-based stop loss policy are not subject to AC unit stop loss for forces deploying to the CENTCOM AOR. These soldiers, if eligible per Army Regulation 601-280, will have the opportunity to continue serving upon completion of their 12-month obligation under stop loss.
- From the date of approval, AC soldiers on terminal leave, or who have shipped household goods in preparation for transition from service, or are within 14 days of separation date will not be subject to AC unit stop loss for units listed on the deployment list.
- Commander, U.S. Army Personnel Command remains the stop loss exception to policy authority for Active Army soldiers with compassionate and/or com-

prising reasons.

The total number of soldiers affected by this policy cannot be provided at this time. When stop loss is lifted, personnel strength managers will regulate separation dates to ensure no adverse impact on Army-wide readiness.

Brown has approved four increments of stop loss in support of Operation Noble Eagle and Operation Enduring Freedom, dated November 30, 2001, December 27, 2001, February 8, 2002, and June 4, 2002.

Additionally, there have been three stop loss policy changes including: (1) on August 31, 2002, Brown changed the overall stop loss program from an open-ended policy to one of only 12 months duration by approving the 12-month Soldier Stop Loss Policy; (2) on November 4, 2002, Brown approved a second lift of stop loss for selected skills from stop loss 1 through 4; (3) on November 7, 2002, Brown approved the Army RC unit stop loss for all RC units

alerted or mobilized in support of Operation Noble Eagle and Operation Enduring Freedom, and the global war on terrorism.

Prior to Operation Noble Eagle and Operation Enduring Freedom, the Army last used stop loss during Operation Desert Shield/Desert Storm in 1990 when President George H. Bush delegated stop loss authority to the Secretary of Defense.

Stop loss does not affect most involuntary separations or retirements, nor does it generally limit laws, regulations, or policies that lead to involuntary separations, retirements, or releases from active duty.

The Army continues to reevaluate stop loss on a monthly basis and to use it as a tool to maintain unit readiness.

For more details, soldiers should contact their servicing personnel activity or check for the latest information at <http://perscomnd04.army.mil/milperms-gs.nsf>.

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Black History Month Trivia Questions of the Week

In recognition of Black History Month, during the month of February, a series of trivia questions about well-known facts, events and personalities will be published. The answers and the winner’s name will be published in next week’s issue. Answers must be sent via e-mail to gayle.ellis@cen.amedd.army.mil or delivered in a sealed envelope, addressed to Gayle Ellis, BEP committee member, Room 1335, Bldg. 2841 by close of business on Tuesday following the publication of the questions. The winner will be the first set of correct answers received. E-mail responses are highly encouraged.

The following are the questions for this week:

1. Whose quote is this: "We should emphasize not Negro History, but the Negro in history. What we need is not a history of selected races or nations, but the history of the world void of national bias, race, hate, and religious prejudice?" Check the Website <http://parents.infoplease.com/spot/bhmquotes1.html> to find the answer.

2. Executive Order #10925 created the Committee of Equal Employment Opportunity and was signed March 6, 1961, by which President? Check the Website www.infoplease.com to find the answer.

3. In the Supreme Court case of Swann v. Charlotte-Mecklenburg Board of Education, what ruling was upheld as being constitutional? Check the Website www.infoplease.com to find the answer.

4. What self taught black surveyor and mathematician was appointed by President George Washington to be on the District of Columbia commission to survey and draw up the original boundary lines for the Washington, D.C. area? Check the Website www.infoplease.com to find the answer.

5. The first African American to hold a patent was Thomas L. Jennings. For what did he receive his patent? Check the Website www.infoplease.com to find the answer.

The following are the answers to the Feb. 20 questions:

1. Michael Jordan

2. From the Indians who were their enemies, but who admired them for their fearlessness and courage, qualities also found in a buffalo.

3. Juneteenth or June 19th, the day recognized as the day freedom was finally given to those not given freedom under the Emancipation Proclamation, because of lack of communication that the Civil War was over.

4. They marched on Washington.

5. Nat King Cole in 1956

The winner for the week of Feb. 20 is Katie Gile, Registered Nurse at Troop Medical Clinic.


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Help the San Antonio Police Department

The FSH Black Employment Program Committee is conducting a stuffed animal drive.

The stuffed animals will be donated to the San Antonio Police Department for children impacted by crimes or violence. To donate your stuffed animals, call Master Sgt. Anders at 221-7889 or Sgt. 1st Class Walls at 221-4240.

Clean out your closet and give to a worthy cause.



March is National Women’s History Month

March 1-31 has been designated as National Women’s History Month. The theme is “Women Pioneering the Future.” The following events will be held on Fort Sam Houston to commemorate the event:

March 6 - The National Women’s History Month Opening Ceremony will be held from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Roadrunner Community Center, Bldg. 2797 on Stanley Road. The keynote speaker will be Dr. E. Faye Williams, ESQ. A complimentary buffet will be served.

March 18 - “Pioneering The Future Together Workshop” will be held from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Roadrunner Community Center, Bldg. 2797. The keynote speaker will be Clarissa Davis-Wrightsil.

For more information, call Teri L. Garnett, Federal Women’s Program Manager at 221-9543.

Attention Garrison Employees

March Workshop Schedule:

- Accessing the Army Benefits Center, March 4 at 8 a.m. and March 18 at 8 a.m.
- Accessing Resumix, March 4 at 9:15 a.m. and March 18 at 9:15 a.m.

Note: All classes are by reservation only and limited to eight per class. For more information or reservations, call 221-2276.

Donate blood and help take care of our own

The Academy of Health Sciences Blood Drive will be held on Feb. 28 from 8 a.m. to noon at the “El Comedor” Lounge located in the basement of Willis Hall, next to Barber Shop. This event will be held in conjunction with the Akeroyd Blood Donor Center and is the first in a series of monthly blood drives at the U.S. Army Medical Department Center and School. Units, soldiers and civilians are encouraged to donate the gift of life. We are asking all to support this very important program.

Brooke Army Medical Center Memorandum number 40-38, Medical Services, Blood Donor Program, dated April 15, 2002, states that DoD civilians are encouraged to seek supervisory approval to serve as blood donors and will be excused from work, without charge to leave, for the time necessary to donate, for recuperation immediately following donation and for travel to and from donation site. The maximum excusable time will not exceed four hours.

For more information on the blood drive and future dates, call Carolyn Hayden, at 221-7316 or Tammy McGee at 221-7016.

Remember.. "Tomorrow's destiny is nothing more than the outcome of today's actions." American Pride, it flows through us all...Donate Blood!






Photo by Phil Reidinger
Col. Kenneth Crook, Headquarters, U.S. Army Medical Command, presents the Crewmember of the Year award to Sgt. Gregory Hildebrandt at the DUSTOFF banquet held at the Adams Mark Hotel Feb. 22. The annual DUSTOFF Association reunion was held in San Antonio.



Photo by Esther Garcia
Fort Sam Houston military ambassadors, Sgt. 1st Class Samuel Morris, Noncommissioned Officers Academy, and Staff Sgt. Katherine Carrasco, C Company, Academy Battalion, joined Susan Reed, Bexar County District Attorney, at the Fiesta Poster 2003 unveiling ceremony held at the Sheraton Gunter Hotel on Feb. 19. Morris and Carrasco will represent the Army during Fiesta week, which starts April 19 in San Antonio.

Thrift Savings Plan ‘Catch-up’ contributions signed into law

President Bush has signed into law legislation allowing Thrift Savings Plan participants age 50 and older to make additional contributions of up to \$2,000 in 2003, above the current 8 percent of basic pay for CSRS and 13 percent for FERS. The limits on catch-up amounts are expected to rise each year by \$1,000 until 2006 when they will cap at \$5,000. These “catch-up” contributions

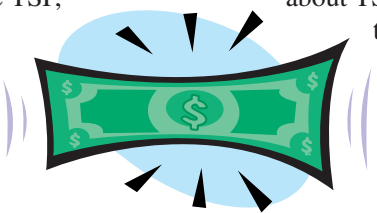
potentially provide participants age 50 and older an opportunity to make up for working years when 401(k)’s and similar savings plans, like the TSP, were not available. The catch up contributions, just as current TSP contributions are made, will be transacted through payroll with-

holding only.

The Thrift Investment Board has not yet officially provided specific details about TSP catch-up contributions. Federal agencies must adapt payroll and personnel systems so employees can contribute catch up contributions to the TSP. The

beginning date, will in large part, be dependent on the ability of all government agencies to make these required system changes.

Information will be provided as it becomes available from the TIB. TSP bulletins may be viewed on the TSP Website at www.tsp.gov under the section, Info for Agency Reps.



Fort Sam Houston ISD Weekly Campus Activities March 3 - 8, 2003

Fort Sam Houston Elementary School

Monday, March 3
- Spring Individual Pictures

Tuesday, March 4
- Grade 3 TAKS Reading

Wednesday, March 5
- Mobile Science Lab for 4th and 5th Grade

Friday, March 6
- Spirit Day

Robert G. Cole Jr./Sr. High School

Monday, March 3
- Begin 5th Six Weeks
- Cougar Pride Executive Meeting in Media Center – 5:30 p.m.
- Winter “C” Awards in Moseley Gym – 6 p.m.

Tuesday, March 4
- Baseball vs Stacey at Cole – 4:30 p.m.

Wednesday, March 5
- Special Ed Field Trip to SA Missions – 8:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Thursday, March 6
- Cole Golf Team at Bandera – TBA
- Boys Junior Varsity and Varsity and Girls Varsity Track Meet at Comfort High School – in the afternoon
- State Basketball Tournament - TBA

Friday, March 7
- Baseball vs St. Gerard at Cole – 4:30 p.m.
- Cougar Pride Bake Sale at AMEDD Center & School
- Cole Tennis at New Braunfels High School – TBA
- State Basketball Tournament - TBA

Saturday, March 8
- State Basketball Tournament - TBA



Health Promotion Center February - March Class Schedule

Class	Date	Time
Self Care & Health	27	1 - 3 p.m.
Breast Health	28	9 - 10 a.m.
Cholesterol & Lipids	3	9 - 11:30 a.m.
Diabetes Support Group	3	10 - 11 a.m.
COPD Part 1	3	1 - 3 p.m.
Continuing Care	4	9 - 10 a.m.
Diabetes Education	4	12:45 - 4:30 p.m.
Office Yoga	5	Noon - 1 p.m.
Fibromyalgia Support Group	5	1 - 3:30 p.m.

Note: Schedule Diabetes Education through Internal Medicine Clinic at 916-0840 (even if you are in Tricare Prime), select option 2. Appointments for Fibromyalgia Self-Help require a consult to Behavioral Medicine Clinic. Schedule Weight Management through Nutrition Care Division at 916-5525. Schedule Back Pain through Physical Therapy Clinic at 916-3247/4133.



Army Community Service Family Advocacy Program February Class Schedule

Class	Date	Time
B.E.A.M.S for Jr’s	27	9:30 - 10:15 a.m.
B.E.A.M.S. for Teens		9:30 - 10 a.m.
Coping w/Difficult People	27	Noon - 1 p.m.
Making Your Relationship a Win-Win Partnership	27	6 - 8 p.m.
Pregnancy and Childbirth	27	9 a.m. - Noon
Single Parent Support Group	28	Noon - 1 p.m.
Teen Talk	27	4:30 - 5:30 p.m.
Women Encouraging Women	27	11 a.m. - Noon.

Note: Bring a brown bag lunch to classes scheduled during the hours of 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. To sign up for classes or for more information, call ACS Family Advocacy Program at 221-2334 or 221-2350.



Attention student spouses!

Army Family Team Building is sponsoring an Open House just for you March 3 from 10 to 11 a.m. at the Roadrunner Community Center, 2010 Stanley Rd. Bldg. 2797 (between the tennis courts and Sand Antonio Credit Union building), Fort Sam Houston, Texas.

This is a great chance for spouses of students in any of the Army programs at Fort Sam Houston to find out what’s here, who’s here, and why you’re here. Meet other student spouses, and be greeted by Army spouses who will share a little of their own Army experiences with you. If you have no childcare, bring the kids along as you discover what it’s like to be an Army spouse. There will be welcome bags full of information, door prizes and light snacks.

So come join us for an hour of fun. Very casual dress and no RSVP required. For more information call the AFTB office at 221-1132.

Delta Dental wins renewal for TRICARE Retiree Dental Program

Delta Dental Plan of California announced recently that the TRICARE Management Activity of the Department of Defense has awarded the company a five-year renewal of the contract to administer the TRICARE Retiree Dental Program.

The TRDP, authorized by Congress as part of the National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 1997, offers affordable dental benefits to the nation's 4.2 million uniformed services retirees and their family members. The new contract becomes effective on May 1, 2003. With its current enrollment of 650,000, the TRDP is already the nation's largest voluntary, all enrollee-paid dental program.

"Based on the program's excellent track record and our plans to accelerate the availability of comprehensive benefits with fewer restrictions, we expect to see some healthy growth in the TRDP over the course of the new contract period," said Delta Dental President and Chief Executive Officer Gary Radine.

The TRDP will continue as a national, combined fee-for-service/preferred provider program that offers enrollees access to any licensed dentist in all 50 states, plus the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, Guam, the U.S. Virgin Islands, American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands and Canada. While enrollees may seek care from any licensed dentist in the service

area, optimal benefits will be available to those enrolled retirees and their family members who choose a participating dentist.

The new contract for the TRDP reduces the mandatory enrollment obligation to only 12 months, after which enrollees can remain in the program on a month-to-month basis.

Additionally, the waiting period for a full scope of benefits has been reduced to just 12 months, after which 50 percent coverage for crowns, bridges, full/partial dentures and orthodontics goes into effect.

"Since the program was first introduced in 1998, Congress and the Department of Defense have steadily increased the benefits we are allowed to offer," said Lowell Daun, DDS, senior vice president for Delta's Federal Services division.

Dr. Daun notes the program continues to carry a \$50 per person, per year deductible, but now also includes a family cap of \$150 and an increased annual maximum amount of \$1,200 against which preventive and diagnostic services are not counted. Coverage for these services, as well as for basic restorative services, periodontics, endodontics, oral surgery and dental emergencies is available immediately on the effective date of coverage. Crowns, bridges, full and partial dentures and orthodontics are available after only 12 months continuous enrollment.

Reservists - check child support rules for mobilization

Special to the American Forces Press Service

Guard and Reserve members who have child support obligations and whose civilian income is larger than their military one should review their rights before they get orders.

The Defense Finance and Accounting Service's Garnishment Operations Directorate has been working with the Federal Office of Child Support Enforcement to address child support payment issues related to activated reservists.

One scenario of concern, said Rod Winn, director of garnishment operations, is a reservist whose child support order is based on civilian income and doesn't take into account a possible loss of income caused by military activation. Neither the obligation nor the payment due is affected automatically by military service except as the support order may state.

Reservists who need relief have

to ask for a review and modification of the child support obligation from their appropriate state child support agency, he said. For more information, he said, visit the Websites below:

- State child support enforcement agencies gateways at <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cse/extinf.htm#exta>.
- Federal Office of Child Support Enforcement Information Memorandum (IM)-01-09 at <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cse/pol/im-01-09.htm>.
- DoD guidance, provided under "Family Law Matters" at the secure Website operated by the Army Judge Advocate General's Office at <https://www.jagcnet.army.mil/Legal>.

"This issue can have serious consequences for the reserve military member and dependent children relying on the support," Winn said. "All reservists with support obligations are urged to review the garnishment guidelines."



Army Family Team Building offers Saturday Classes

Saturday, March 1 - 1 to 4 p.m.

- | | |
|---------------|--|
| 1 - 2:20 p.m. | Time Management and Meeting Management |
| 2:20 - 4 p.m. | Introduction to Effective Leadership |

Saturday, March 8 - 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

- | | |
|------------------|--|
| 9 - 10 a.m. | Intermediate Problem Solving |
| 10 - 11:30 a.m. | Volunteer Management/Marketing Experience and Management Skills: Understanding Needs |
| 11:30 a.m.- Noon | Management Skills: Crisis and Coping |
| Noon - 1:30 p.m. | Working Lunch - Adapting to Change and Stress Management |
| 1:30 - 2 p.m. | Family Support Groups |
| 2 - 2:30 p.m. | Certificates |

All classes will be taught in the Roadrunner Community Center, Bldg. 2797 on Stanley Rd., Fort Sam Houston. Classes will run through the lunch hour, so bring your own lunch, drinks will be provided (kitchen is available). For more information or to register call the AFTB office at 221-1132.



Photo by Ray Turner

Command Sgt. Maj. Paul Mathsen (right) presents the Army Commendation Certificate to Sgt. 1st Class Claudio Carrasco. Carrasco was selected as the Noncommissioned Officer of the Year, NCO Academy. Carrasco is assigned as the Small Group Leader for the Advanced Noncommissioned Officer Course.

AMEDD Center and School will recognize top soldiers March 6

The public is invited to a ceremony honoring the U.S. Army Medical Department Center and School's Noncommissioned Officer, Drill Sergeant, Instructor and Soldier of the Year on March 6 at 1:30 p.m. at Blesse Auditorium, Bldg. 1842.



Photo by Esther Garcia

‘Around the Corner Frame Shop’ celebrates first anniversary
Left to right, celebrating the first anniversary of the opening of the “Around the Corner Frame Shop,” is Bert Aguilar, shop employee, Susan Gronemeyer and Debra Smith, shop co-owners, and artists Elias San Miguel, Thom Ricks, Joe Lopez, and Brother Cletus, who displayed their artworks for sale during a reception held Feb. 21. The shop offers framing, etching, engraving, sells artwork and more. The shop is located in the basement of the Officers Club, 407 Dickman Road. The phone number is 224-1725.

“Race For The Cure” coming soon



The annual Susan G. Komen “Race For The Cure” will be held April 5. Cost is \$18 for adults, \$15 for children and includes a race T-shirt. Register on line at <http://sakomen.org>, start your own team (information on the Website), or join the BAMC, AMEDD Center and School and Fort Sam Houston team.
Deadline to register is March 12. Call Susie Ferrise at 916-2261 (BAMC), Janie Thomas at 221-6245 (AMEDD Center & School) or Deb Torrington 805-0296 (Fort Sam Houston).

A common thread drives hundreds to answer the call for bone marrow donors

By Mike Dulevitz
BAMC Public Affairs

Does the name Lynn Schmidt sound familiar? Does it sound like someone you may know? Probably not, but the word cancer does. That is something everyone has heard of. It may have even affected someone you love or someone you know. What do Lynn Schmidt and cancer have in common? She has cancer of the bone marrow, known in professional circles as Myelodysplastic Syndrome. She could have been diagnosed with aplastic anemia, leukemia or another blood disease, but regardless, there is only one means of fighting such a diagnosis. Lynn needs a bone marrow transplant. Who can help her and others like her? You can, that's who.

You might be thinking, "I would help her if I could, but what can I do?" In Lynn's case, 963 individuals out of 1,500 contacted, said, "yes." They agreed to register to become potential bone marrow transplant donors during the Bone Marrow Drive held Feb. 5 and 6 at BAMC and Fort Sam Houston. The drive was a resounding success and the hope it generated was nothing less than spectacular.

Many of the people who registered for the drive shared special reasons for taking part. Second Lieutenant Rachel Greve, an oncology nurse and student in the Officer Basic Course, has seen patients needing marrow transplants before. She commented on how easily accessible the registration site was and stated, "I have been wanting to take part for many years and I was just glad I could finally get registered."

Evan Anderson, a sophomore at the University of Texas, drove all the way from Austin to participate. "I hope to organize a bone marrow drive someday," he said. Another student, Mathew Carter, Southwest Texas State University, San Marcos, stated, "I regularly take part in blood drives and wanted to register for the Marrow Donor Program." Different stories, yet all bearing that common thread, they all want to help others.

This all began because two best friends, Judith Markelz, a member of the BAMC Auxiliary and Lynn Schmidt shared the sad diagnosis five to six months ago. Although they have known each other for only a year, their friendship has blossomed as if they have known each other for a much longer time.

When Markelz learned about Lynn's diagnosis, she began to search for ways to help. Her search led her to Lt. Col. Donna Whittaker, chief, Blood Services, BAMC, who made her aware of the CW Bill Young/DoD Bone Marrow Program and of how a donor drive could benefit not only Lynn, but others as well.

Once this avenue of help had been located, the means of hosting the drive became the focus of her attention. Markelz took the problem to her fellow BAMC Auxiliary members and their immediate response laid the groundwork for a Bone Marrow Donor Drive.

Inspired by Lynn's story and the potential gains such a drive could foster, the BAMC Auxilliary members opted to fund the costs associated with the advertising and program undertaking. According to Markelz, "this could not have been done without the help of Lt.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Alfredo Paez

Christie Smith, undergoes blood screening to become a potential bone marrow donor during the Bone Marrow Donor Drive held at BAMC Feb. 5.

Col. Whittaker, the CW Bill Young/DoD Bone Marrow Program, and the wonderful BAMC Auxilliary ladies."

The story does not end here. There is still something you might want to consider. "Is this something I want to do? Is this something I could do?" We hope the answer you arrived at was, "yes." Appointments for donations can still be

accommodated at the Akeroyd Blood Donor Center, Fort Sam Houston. For more information or to schedule an appointment, call Mark Saucedo at 295-4655.

It could be your donation that gives an affected person a new lease on life. You could be the cure that saves someone's life. Think about it, and then do it.

Blood is the fluid of life

The BAMC Blood Bank is running critically low of O Negative blood.

Akeroyd Blood Donor Center is reaching out to you for your support to accomplish a mission for life. Contact the Donor Center to lend a helping hand. To donate blood now, call the Akeroyd Blood Donor Center at 295-4655 or 295-4989.



Recreation and Fitness

Outdoor Equipment Center - Reserve your camping and fishing equipment now for spring break. Saltwater or freshwater fishing boats are available as well as canopies, chairs, tables, and of course, Play Bouncer for that spring BBQ or unit function. Reserve you camper now for the upcoming NASCAR Race at Texas Motor Speedway. Racing event is March 24-30.

The Annual White Bass run will soon be in full swing. Reserve you fishing boat now.

Salado Park - Reserve Salado Park for Spring Break 2003 or for unit functions.

Indoor and Outdoor Ranges - Outdoor Archery Range is open from Tuesday-Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Instructor is available from 1 to 5 p.m. Archery pass is required. Archery related services available include: bow maintenance such as tuning, arrow building, fletching, cutting and replacing tips. Archery Lessons/coaching are also available. Target rental and special order bows or accessory. Indoor Archery range hours are 8 a.m. to 7:30 p.m., Wednesday and Thursday. These services and equipment rental are available at the Outdoor Equipment Center, 221-5224.

Women's Varsity Basketball Team - Players are needed for the women's basketball team.

Intramural Soccer - Letter of intent due March 3. Coaches meeeting will be held March 10 at the Jimmy Brought Fitness Center and season starts on March 17.

Intramural Tennis - Letter of intent is due March 17. Coaches meeting will be held, March 20 at the Jimmy Brought

Fitness Center at 1 p.m. and season starts on March 31.

Intramural Spring Softball - Letter of intent is due March 17. Coaches meeting will be held, March 24 at the Jimmy Brought Fitness Center at 1 p.m. and season starts on April 7.

Intramural Golf - Coaches meeting will be held, March 3 at the Golf Club House and season starts on April 14.

For more information on all the above events, call Earl Young at 221-1180 or e-mail earl.young@amedd.army.mil.

Varsity Softball Team - Players are needed for the men and women's softball team. If you are interested in playing, call Earl Young at 221-1180 or e-mail earl.young@amedd.army.mil.

Intramural Racquetball - Letter of intent March 3. Coaches meeting will be held March 7 at the Jimmy Brought Fitness Center at 1 p.m. and season starts on March 17.

Intramural Volleyball - Letter of intent is due March 3. Coaches meeting will be held, March 6, at the Jimmy Brought Fitness Center at 1 p.m. and season starts on March 17.

Aerobics Classes are offered at the Jimmy Brought Fitness Center. Yoga/Pilates every Tuesday and Thursday at 5 p.m. Free early morning Cardio Kick-boxing class every Monday and Wednesday from 6:15 to 7 a.m. Sunday morning class offered from 10 to 11:30 a.m. Cardio Step will be taught by Mary. Patrons interested in lunchtime class on Tuesday at 11:30 a.m. to 12:15 p.m., or the above classes, call Lucian Kimble at 221-2020.

Fitness Programs - Biking, walking for lunch bunch, Stairmaster, bench

press programs are just a few of the fitness programs available. Free ABS and stretching classes on Mondays and Wednesdays from 11:30 a.m. to noon and 5 to 5:30 p.m. Participate in the free monthly 5K Fun Run/Walk beginning Feb. 22 at 10:15 a.m. The event starts in front of the Jimmy Brought Fitness Center. Free T-Shirts will be availabe to participants.

Run/Walk for Your Life Program - Get in shape and stay in shape with this self-paced, progressive distance running program. Divided into three phases, the run/walk for your life program is designed to improve the physical fitness and health. Call for information 221-2020.

60 Days of Fitness - A self-paced motivating fitness and nutritional pro-

gram to help you lose 15 pounds in 60 days safely using a point system. Workout 45 out of 60 days and receive a seven-page fitness assessment, body fat analysis, body measurements as well as attending two 30-minute nutrition classes taught by a certified dietician. For more information, call 221-2020 or 221-1234.

Nutrition Classes - Classes will be held at the Jimmy Brought Fitness Center March 12, 9:30 to 10 a.m., and March 19, 5 to 6 p.m.

Bench Press Contest - Get ready for the next Bench Press contest at the Jimmy Brought Fitness Center April 3.

Body Building Show - Get ready for the Body Building Show at the Jimmy Brought Fitness Center May 31.



Intramural Basketball Standings

As of Feb. 21

Team	W	L
DFAS	11	1
BAMC	9	2
5th Army	5	6
Old School	5	7
NCO Academy	5	7
5th Recruiting	2	8
D/R Navy	2	8
ITBC	2	9*

Feb. 20

BAMC	68	NCO Academy	53
BAMC	68	Old School	55
NCO Academy	79	5th Recruiting	35



*ITBC has been allowed back into the league for the playoffs only March 24 at the Jimmy Brought Fitness Center at 1 p.m. and season starts on April 7.



Youth Happenings

Exploring Life for Middle School Students - Youth Services offers this free after school program for Middle School youth grades 6-9, Monday through Friday until 8 p.m. YS will pick up your child from the elementary or the Jr./Sr. High School and take your child to the Youth Center. They will provide a snack, work on homework, participate in clubs such as photography or technology club, and participate in fun innovative projects. Youth must be registered with Child and Youth Services for an annual fee of \$15. For more information, call 221-3502.

Child and Youth Services offers the following classes:

- **Gymnastics** at a cost of \$30 for the 1st child and \$25 for the 2nd child on:
Mondays - 10 to 10:45 a.m. for mom and tot.
Tuesdays - 2:45 to 3:30 p.m. for pre-school 2-4 year olds.
3:30 to 4:15 p.m. for 3-5 year olds.
4 to 4:45 p.m. for 6 year olds and older.
- Thursdays - 4 to 5 p.m. for 6 year olds and older.
5 to 6 p.m. for intermediate.
- **Tae-Kwon-do classes** will be held on Mondays and Wednesdays from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. The cost is \$35 per month for the 1st child and \$30 for the 2nd child ages 6-18 years old.
- **New Dance Classes** cost is \$24 for 30-minute classes, \$28 per month for 50-minute classes and \$30 per month for 60-minute classes.
Classes are as follows:
Thursday: 6 - 6:50 p.m. for 3-5 year old class, Tap, ballet, and Jazz.
6:50 - 7:50 p.m. for 6-8 year old class, Tap, ballet, and Jazz.
7:50 to 8:50 p.m. for 9 year olds and older, Tap, ballet, and Jazz.
- **Piano Lessons** will begin in March on Tuesdays from 3:30 to 6 p.m. and Wednesdays from 2:30 to 6 p.m. Each class will be 30 minutes and cost \$50 per month. Beginners are welcome. Call the Youth Center at 221-3502/4882 for



information and registration.

- **Teen Talk** - All teens are invited to attend Teen Talk every Thursday from 4 to 5 p.m. Teen talk is a group discussion about all the topics that teens are interested in and want to talk about. The Family Advocacy program assists YS with this program.
- **Open Recreation** is held every Saturday at the Youth Center, Bldg. 1630, at 3 p.m. for youth in grades 1-12. Activities such as fishing, crafts, bingo and computer classes are held weekly. Clubs such as 4-H and photography are also held. Youths must be registered with Child and Youth Services Division. Youth grades 1-5 can stay at the Youth Center from 3-8 p.m., grades 6-8 from 3-10 p.m. and grades 9-12 can stay from 3-11 p.m. Parents for youth ages 9 and younger must sign their child both in and out of the Youth Center, those 10 and older may sign themselves in and out.
- **Saturday Shuttle Service** to and from Youth Services - at no cost to patrons is available. Parents of children 9 and under must wait for the van and sign them into and out of the van with the YS staff member. The Shuttle Schedule is as follows:
3 p.m. - Leave the Youth Center
3:07 p.m. - Gorgas Circle(Picnic Tables)
3:10 p.m. - Schofield/ Dickman on Schofield
3:15 p.m. - Reynolds and Dickman on Reynolds
3:20 p.m. - Officer's Club tennis Courts
3:25 p.m. - Artillery Post Road at Bus Stop
3:30 p.m. - Easley/ Infantry Post Bus Stop 660
3:42 p.m. - Patch Road (Playground)
3:46 p.m. - Patch Road Shoppette Parking lot
3:50 p.m. - Foulois/ Scott Road Harris Heights
3:54 p.m. - Forage/ Foulois
The Return Shuttle will leave the Youth Center at 7:30 p.m. for those in



5th grade and below. There is also a shuttle that leaves at 9:30 p.m. for those in Middle School and at 10:30 p.m. for those in 9th grade and up. The shuttles service is only for youth who live on post.

- **Registration for Baseball, Softball and T-ball** is ongoing through March 7 from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. at the Youth Center, Bldg. 1630. Cost is \$55 for the 1st child and \$50 for the 2nd or 3rd child. Skill evaluations will be held the week of March 24. Birth certificates and physicals are required. All youth must be registered with Child and Youth Services to participate. For more information call 221-3502/5513.
- **Track Registration** in ongoing daily through March 15 from 10 a.m. to 7

p.m. Cost is \$55 per person and birth certificate and physicals are required. All youth must be registered with Child and Youth Services. This annual registration fee is \$15 per person or \$35 for a family of 3 or more. For more information, call 221-3502/5513.

- **Middle School Camp Spring Break Registration** continues through March 1. The camp will be held March 17 to 21. Sign up at the front desk of the Youth Center or Call 221-3502. Cost is \$10 per day and will include breakfast, lunch and snack along with activities such as bowling, hiking, crafts, and computer lab programs.
- **The Computer Lab** is open for Middle School youth daily, Monday to Saturday from 3 to 6 p.m. The club meets Wednesdays from 4:30-5:30 p.m. at the YC Computer Lab.



Join us for the upcoming STOMP WORKSHOP

Co-Sponsored by:
Installation Exceptional Family Member Program and
Military School Districts Cooperative

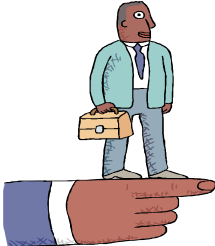
Are you a military parent of a child with a disability or a professional working with these families?

This workshop is for you !

Mark your calendar!
Date: March 4 and 5
Time: 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Place: Roadrunner Community Center

Workshop and materials provided at no cost to participants!

STOMP-Specialized Training Of Military Parents is a nationally known Parent Training and Information Center for military families of children with disabilities serving military families whatever their geographic location



Do you have questions about your child's educational or medical services/resources?

- What are the laws and regulations regarding people with disabilities?
- How to be an effective participant in the IEP process?
- Local resources available to you? TriCare? PFPWD? Medicaid? SSI?
- How can you better prepare for your next PCS?
- How to be a powerful communicator?
- What rights do you have as a parent when your child with a disability reaches age 18?

For questions or registration contact:
Kerry.Dauphinee@amedd.army.mil
210-221-2705/0427



Photo by Esther Garcia

Army retired Lt. Col. Howard Huntsman looks at the H-13 Helicopter donated to the Army Medical Department Museum. Huntsman flew H-13s during the Korean War out of Mobile Army Support Hospital companies. He also served two tours in Vietnam, and served in World War II as a Marine.



Photo by Esther Garcia

Sergeant Darin Pratt, 323rd Army Band, sounds taps following the dedication of a DUSTOFF memorial and benediction sermon in memory of crewmembers that were killed in action. Sgt. Gregory Mickel stands at attention during taps.

AMEDD Museum accepts H-13 Helicopter

Continued from Page 1

This ceremony coincided with the DUSTOFF Association convention in San Antonio. The DUSTOFF association is an organization for all officers and enlisted Army Medical Department personnel, aviation crewmembers, and others, who were engaged in any capacity, with the Army aeromedical evacuation programs in war or peace. The association derives its name, DUSTOFF, from the radio call sign given to the first aeromedical helicopter evacuation unit in Vietnam, the 57th Medical Detachment. Three DUSTOFF pilots, Brig. Gen. Jerome Foust, Col. Ernest Sylvester, and Lt. Col. Paul Bloomquist, posthumously, were inducted in the association's Hall of

Fame located at the museum. The Hall of Fame wall honors those persons who have made an outstanding contribution to DUSTOFF aviation. As a DUSTOFF pilot, Foust completed many lifesaving evacuation missions under heavy enemy fire during the Vietnam War. Sylvester was the first aviator in the Vietnam War to fly over 1,000 hours in combat assault and direct combat support missions. Bloomquist, who spend nearly 35 months in Vietnam, continued flying for nearly 13 hours even though he was wounded himself, and rescued many casualties under heavy enemy fire. Col. Doug Moore, a friend of Bloomquist, spoke on behalf of the Bloomquist's family who could not

attend the ceremony. Following remarks by the inductees, the Hall of Fame wall was unveiled. Chaplain (Col.) Conrad Walker, U.S. Army retired, and a Vietnam War veteran, then provided the dedication and benediction sermon to dedicate the DUSTOFF memorial brick pavers, which bear the name, unit and date of death of the crewmembers killed in action. The 250 brick pavers were placed at the foot of the hall of fame wall. At the conclusion of the sermon, the Fort Sam Houston Honors Platoon rendered a rifle salute, followed by the sound of taps by the 323rd Army Band. Among the distinguished guests attending the ceremony was Lt. Gen.

Frank Ledford, U.S. Army retired, Maj. Gen. Spurgeon Neel, U.S. Army retired, Medal of Honor recipient Maj. Gen. Patrick Brady, State Representative Jose Menendez, and City Council member Carroll Schubert. Fort Sam Houston is the birthplace of military aviation. As early as 1918, tests were conducted on MacArthur Parade Field near Building 142 to evaluate evacuating patients using a JN-4 aircraft. In the 1920's Fort Sam Houston soldiers and the Army Air Corps tested the use of parachutes to drop personnel and equipment at the old Brooks Field. In 1939-42, the 2nd Infantry Division conducted experiments landing C-47 aircraft towing gliders on MacArthur Field.



Photo by Esther Garcia



Photo by Esther Garcia

Above, Col. Jim Prescott, U.S. Army retired (left), reminisces about his experiences flying the H-13 Helicopter with Maj. Gen. Floyd Baker, U.S. Army retired, Chairman of the Board, AMEDD Museum Foundation. Prescott was one of approximately 250 DUSTOFF Association members attending the annual DUSTOFF reunion in San Antonio.



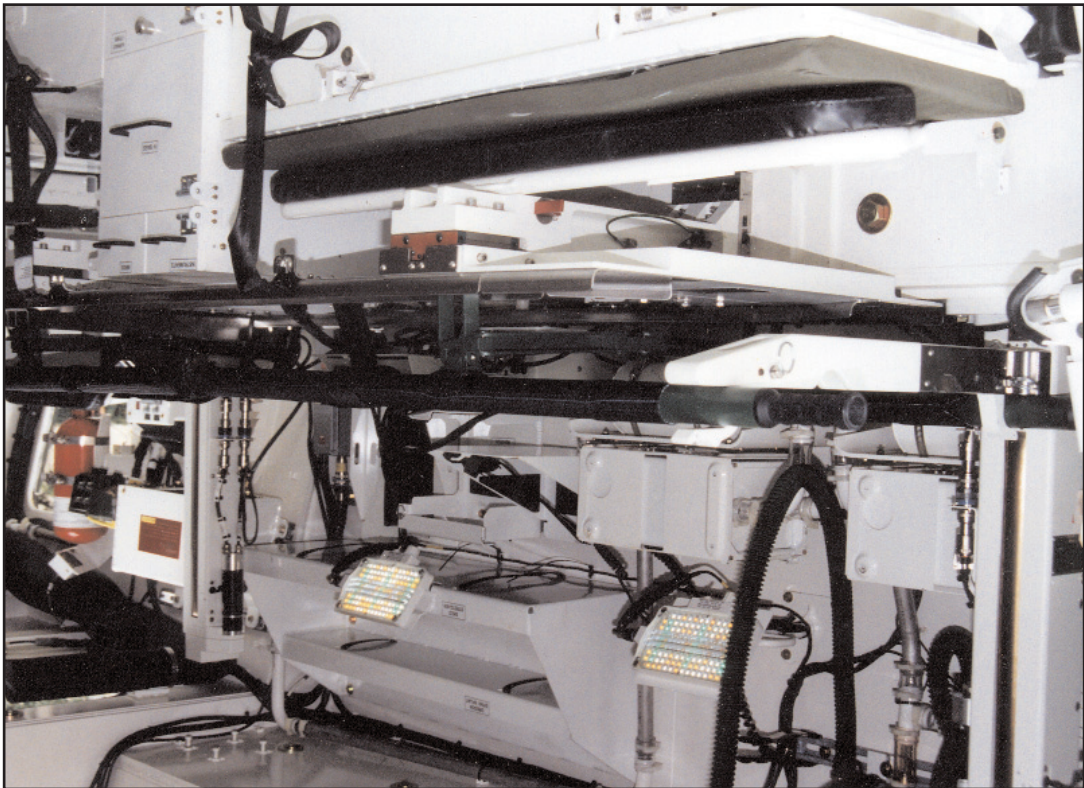
Photo by Phil Reidinger

Left, following the annual DUSTOFF banquet held at the Adams Mark Hotel Feb. 22, Col. Kenneth Crook, Headquarters, U.S. Army Medical Command, transferred the DUSTOFF Association presidency to Art Hapner.

Upper left, inducted into the DUSTOFF Association Hall of Fame on Feb. 22 at the AMEDD Museum are left to right, Doug Moore, representing the family of Lt. Col. Paul Bloomquist, Col. Ernest Sylvester, and Brig. Gen. Jerome Foust.



Fort Lewis soldiers assigned to the Stryker fielding test team brief Lt. Gen. James B. Peake about their experiences driving and maneuvering the vehicle. The soldiers also demonstrated the operating characteristics of the automated litter, the smoke obscuration system and the communications system.



Above, the interior of the Stryker ambulance includes an automated litter lift, more head-room and space for medics to treat patients, more room for medical supplies than the M-113 tracked vehicle and the same communications equipment as the fighting vehicle variant.

Upper right, first female combat medic certified to drive the Stryker MEV Staff Sgt. Mary Rosario, Academy Battalion, 32nd Medical Brigade, prepares the ambulance for a demonstration ride with Army Surgeon General, Lt. Gen. James B. Peake.

Right, Lt. Gen James B. Peake inspects equipment installed on the new Stryker ambulance. There will be 17 ambulances assigned to each Stryker equipped Brigade Combat Team.

Army Surgeon General debuts Stryker MEV

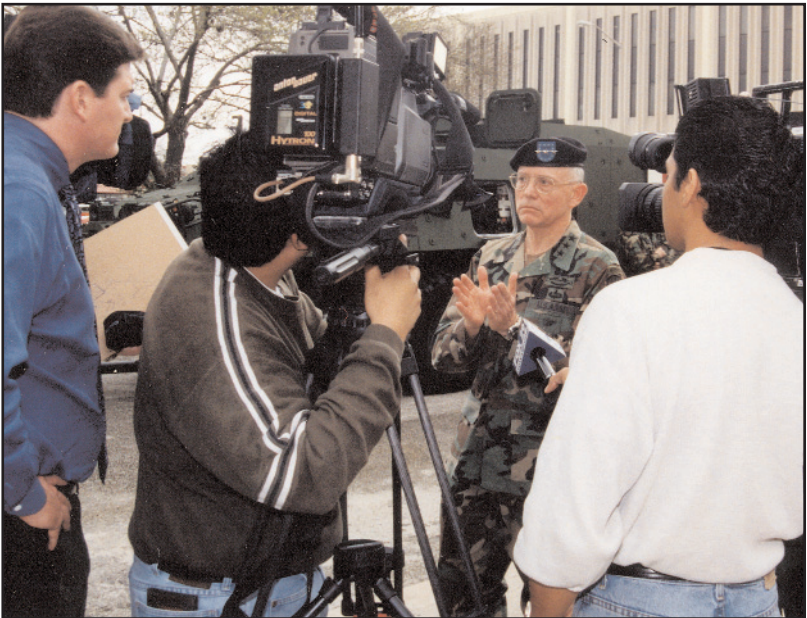
Story by Phil Reidinger
Fort Sam Houston Public Affairs

The medical ambulance variant of the Stryker combat vehicle drew a crowd last week during its debut at the Army Medical Department Center and School. Lt. Gen. James B. Peake, Army Surgeon General, held a press conference at the demonstration site to describe the vehicle's capabilities and talk about the Army's medical readiness.

The medical evacuation vehicle can handle four litter patients or six ambulatory patients with a crew of three to provide basic medical care. There will be 17 ambulances assigned to each Brigade Combat Team.

The vehicle has a higher roof to give medics more room to do CPR, apply pressure bandages and start IVs. Medical adaptations include an automatic litter lift and interior space to accommodate more medical supplies and equipment than the M-113 ambulance. It also is equipped with the same communication package as the rest of the Brigade Combat Team Stryker force to give medics situational awareness of the battlefield.

Photos by Esther Garcia



Above, Lt. Gen James B. Peake, Army Surgeon General, hosts a press conference to describe Stryker ambulance capabilities and discuss the Army's medical readiness.

Left, the Stryker medical evacuation ambulance was on display at the Army Medical Department Center and School for two days. The vehicle has an automated litter lift and more room for supplies, equipment and patient care activities than the M-113 tracked ambulance.



Post worship schedule

Protestant

Sunday:

8 a.m. Service, AMEDD Regimental Chapel, Bldg. 1398

9 a.m. Traditional Service, Installation Chaplain’s Office, Bldg.2530

9:15 a.m. Troop Service, Evans Auditorium, Bldg. 1396

10 a.m. Service, BAMC Chapel

10:45 a.m. Gospel Service, Dodd Field Chapel, Bldg. 1721

11 a.m. Service, AMEDD Regimental Chapel

11:15 a.m. Gospel Service, Evans Auditorium

Wednesday:

9:30 to 11:30 a.m. PWOC Women’s Bible Study, Dodd Field Chapel (Childcare is provided for those who attend)

12 p.m. Service, BAMC Chapel

Thursday:

7 to 8:30 p.m. PWOC Women’s Bible Study meeting, Dodd Field Chapel (Childcare is provided for those who attend)

Catholic

Saturday:

5:30 p.m. Mass, AMEDD Regimental Chapel

Sunday:

8:30 a.m. Mass, BAMC Chapel

9:15 a.m. Mass, Dodd Field Chapel

9:15 a.m. Mass, AMEDD Regimental Chapel

11:15 a.m. Mass, BAMC Chapel

*12:45 p.m. Mass, Dodd Field Chapel

*Bilingual Mass on 1st Sunday of the month (For information call 590-6593).

Weekdays:

11 a.m. Mass, BAMC Chapel

11:30 a.m. Mass, AMEDD Regimental Chapel

1st Friday: 9 a.m. Mass Catholic Women, Dodd Field Chapel

Jewish

Friday:

8 p.m. Service, Dodd Field Chapel

8:30 p.m. Oneg Shabbat, Dodd Field Chapel

(For information call 379-8666 or 493-6660)

Mormon

Sunday: 10:30 a.m. Bldg. 1350, Room 1, Koehler Road, across from Evans Auditorium

Tuesday: 7 p.m. LDS Studies, AMEDD Regimental Chapel

Muslim

Sunday: 10:30 a.m. Religious Education, Bldg. 607A, Infantry Post

Friday: 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. Prayer Service, Bldg. 607A, Infantry Post

Thursday: 8 p.m. Adult Religious Education, Bldg. 607A, Infantry Post

Note: The Post Gift Chapel is closed for renovations indefinitely.


Bible studies schedule

187th MED BN Bible Study on Wednesday at 7 p.m. in Bldg. 2791

Basement Bible Study on Thursday at 11:30 a.m. at the AMEDD Regimental Chapel, Bldg.

Chaplain Administrative Offices are located at the Installation Chaplin’s Office, Bldg. 2530, phone number 221-5005/5007. Garrison staff duty officer, (after duty) 221-2810.

Website: www.cs.amedd.army.mil/chaplain



Wayland Baptist University honor latest graduates

The Army Continuing Education Services and Wayland Baptist University congratulate the following students honored during a graduation ceremony held Feb. 2.

U.S. Army Active Duty:

Sgt. 1st Class Mia F. Adams, Associate of Applied Science

Staff Sgt. Philip Aranda, Bachelor of Science in Occupational Education

Staff Sgt. Arthur Ball Jr., Associate of Applied Science/Bachelor of Science in Occupational Education

Sgt. Demetrius Bright, Associate of Applied Science

Staff Sgt. David L. Bush, Bachelor of Science in Occupational Education

Staff Sgt. Del'Anthony Campbell, Associate of Applied Science

Staff Sgt. Eric V. Cooper, Associate of Applied Science

Staff Sgt. Rachell L. Daniels, Bachelor of Science in Occupational Education

Master Sgt. Hazel E. Habeeb, Bachelor of Science in Occupational Education (Honor Graduate)

Staff Sgt. Ronnie G. Harris, Bachelor of Science in Occupational Education

Staff Sgt. Scott F. Hoffman, Associate of Applied Science

Staff Sgt. Darryl W. Hopkins, Bachelor of Science in Occupational Education

Staff Sgt. Jonas D. Johnson, Associate of Applied Science

Sgt. 1st Class Bradford S. Kelly, Bachelor of Science in Occupational Education

Staff Sgt. Thomas J. Kerwin, Associate of Applied Science

Staff Sgt. James R. Lanning, Associate of Applied Science/Bachelor of Science in Occupational Education

Sgt. 1st Class Albert R. Lee, Associate of Applied Science

Sgt. 1st Class Dudley J. Lewis, Bachelor of Science in Occupational Education

Spc. Theresa R. McDonald, Bachelor of Science in Occupational Education

Sgt. 1st Class Jamie B. Meriwether, Bachelor of Science in Occupational Education

Sgt. 1st Class Henry C. Myrick II, Bachelor of Science in Occupational Education

Master Sgt. Atrell Owens, Bachelor of Science in Occupational Education

Staff Sgt. William H. Partridge, Bachelor of Science in Occupational Education

Staff Sgt. Mary A. Peters, Bachelor of Science in Occupational Education

Sgt. 1st Class Rodney Polk, Associate of Applied Science

Pfc. Saul Ramirez, Associate of Applied Science

Master Sgt. Jonathan P. Reed, Bachelor of Science in Occupational Education

Sgt. 1st Class Mark T. Reichelderfer, Associate of Applied Science

Master Sgt. David Rios, Bachelor of Science in Occupational Education

Sgt. 1st Class Tracy A. Robinson, Bachelor of Science in Occupational Education

Master Sgt. Macey F. Shapiro, Bachelor of Science in Occupational Education

Sgt. 1st Class Paul J. Smith, Bachelor of Science in Occupational Education

Chief Warrant Officer 3 Vivian O. Smith, Bachelor of Science in Occupational Education

Sgt.1st Class Kim M. Travella, Bachelor of Science in Occupational Education

Sgt. 1st Class James T. Waldele, Bachelor of Science in Occupational Education

Sgt. 1st Class Shannon D. Willett, Associate of Applied Science

Staff Sgt. Annette Y. Williams, Bachelor of Science in Occupational Education

National Guard:

Sgt. Kadett E. Derry, Bachelor of Science in Occupational Education

Kelly C. Melvin, Bachelor of Science in Occupational Education

Reserve:

Spc. Karen D. Miller, Bachelor of Science in Occupational Education

Navy:

Chief Petty Officer Luis Ponce, Associate of Applied Science

Retired:

Sgt. Major Robert L. Benson, Associate of Applied Science/Bachelor of Science in Occupational Education

Sgt. 1st Class Vicky L. Cruz, Bachelor of Science in Occupational Education (Honor Graduate)

Sgt. 1st Class Antonio R. Dias, Associate of Applied Science/Bachelor of Science in Occupational Education

Antonio Duran, Bachelor of Science in Occupational Education

Sgt. 1st Class Henry L. Freeman, Bachelor of Science in Occupational Education

Thomas H. Gottschalk, Bachelor of Science in Occupational Education

Master Sgt. Steven A. Hill, Master of Business Administration

John F. Lawson, Bachelor of Science in Occupational Education

Sgt. 1st Class Maxie A. McAlpin, Bachelor of Science in Occupational Education

Sgt. 1st Class Alexis G. Weatherhead, Bachelor of Science in Occupational Education

Civilian:

Deborah A. Miller, Bachelor of Science in Occupational Education

Millsaps College Chamber Singers to perform at Dodd Field Chapel

The Millsaps College Chamber Singers will perform a concert at Dodd Field Chapel on March 9 at 7 p.m. They will spend most of their Spring break week traveling, singing first in Sheveport, La., then in Dallas, Grand Prairie, San Antonio, and Houston, Texas.

The Millsaps Chamber Singers were organized in the fall of 1993. They present concerts in United Methodist churches in Mississippi and the surrounding area each year. Members are chosen by audition and receive scholarship assistance. Timothy C. Coker, professor of music and chair of the Millsaps Department of Performing Arts, directs the Chamber Singers. Rachel Heard, assistant professor of music, is the accompanist.

Millsaps College was founded in 1890 and is affiliated with the United Methodist Church. It is a selective national liberal arts college located in the heart of Mississippi's capital, Jackson. Millsaps provides the perfect atmosphere for intellectual exchange with a student-faculty ratio of 13 to 1 and an average class of 16 students.

Southwest Texas State University representative to hold educational option briefings

A representative from Southwest Texas State University will present briefings on Fridays at 9:30 a.m. in Bldg. 2248. Earn degree credits for work-life experience, military experience or CLEP/DANTES exams. Summer application deadline is May 1 with all transcripts. Registration will be in early June. A SWT Representative is available at the Education Center on Wednesdays from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. and Fridays from 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Also available is a Master of Science in Interdisciplinary Studies, a 39-hour program. Choose a focus in teaching, training, public management, human resources, public relations, or another area. Evening classes are held in San Antonio and some are available by Internet. For more information, call 659-0954 or visit the Website at www.oced.swt.edu.

Immunization requirements update

By Patti Schiefer
Special to the News Leader

Childhood immunizations, a part of routine preventive health care, continue to play a major role in the control of serious preventable illnesses. Thanks to national public health campaigns over the past 40 years, diseases like polio, rubella, and diphtheria have been virtually eliminated.

Since changes in immunization requirements and schedules affect both children and adults, it is important to have immunization records with you at health visits and ask your health care manager to review your immunization status at least yearly.

If you are leaving the local area, check with the school district that your child will be attending for their immunization or health requirements before you leave. Some states require physical examinations prior to admission to public school, many require that a student have a tuberculin skin test within a specified interval, usually 60 to 90 days preceding the date of admission. More information about immunization requirements can be found on the Centers for Disease Control's website at www.cdc.gov/nip/vfc. You can also call the local health department or the CDC hotline at 1-800-232-2522. Below are changes for the 2003-2004 school year.

Hepatitis A

Effective August 1 children born on or after

September 2, 1992, attending school or child-care facilities in San Antonio/Bexar County will be required to have received two doses of hepatitis A vaccine (administered on or after their second birthday) before entry. That means you must get the first dose in February 2003 to have the series completed by August.

TD Boosters

The Tetanus Diphtheria Booster due between 14-16 years of age, which had previously been deferred due to a shortage of vaccine, will now be required due to an adequate vaccine supply. Students who have not had a Td Booster within 10 years are required to have their booster before entry to school in August 2003.

If you have questions concerning this information, contact your physician, the San Antonio Health Department at 207-8894 or your school nurse.

Immunization Clinics

Free or reduced cost immunizations can be obtained at the San Antonio Metropolitan Health District. Some clinics are listed below for your convenience. Call the clinic for hours of operation and be sure to take your child's immunization record.

Pediatric Immunization Clinic (BAMC),
3851 Rodger Brooke Dr., 916-3206

Pediatric Immunization Clinic BAMC:
Walk-In's Mon. - Thurs.: 1 - 3:30 p.m. and
Fridays: 8 - 11 a.m. and 1 - 3:30 p.m.

Note: Bring medical record, immunization record and TRICARE card.



Job Fair Preparation Classes, March 14

Army Career and Alumni Program clients and their spouses will have an opportunity to prepare for the San Antonio Military Community Job Fair by attending a Job Fair Preparation Class. The class is sponsored by the Fort Sam Houston ACAP Center.

The job fair will be held March 19 at the Live Oak Civic Center. The class to prepare clients to work the job fair to their advantage will be held March 14, from 9 to 11 a.m., in classroom B100 in the basement of Bldg. 2263 on Fort Sam Houston.

ACAP clients can sign up for the class at the ACAP Center located in the basement of Bldg. 2264 on Stanley Road, or by calling 221-1213 to make a reservation.

Anyone who is not an ACAP client, who is transitioning from the military service and desires to attend the class, must become an ACAP client. To register with ACAP and make an initial appointment, call 221-1213.



San Antonio Military Community Job Fair

More than 100 employers expected

March 19, 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Live Oak Civic Center, 8101 Pat Booker Road

Sponsored by

- Fort Sam Houston Army Career & Alumni Program
- Fort Sam Houston Family Member Employment Assistance Program
- Lackland Air Force Base Transition & Career Focus Programs
- Randolph Air Force Base Transition & Career Focus Programs
- Brooks Air Force Base Transition & Career Focus Programs
- Webster University Alumni Association
- Texas Workforce Commission
- US Department of Labor/VETS

For additional information contact the Fort Sam Houston ACAP Center at 210-221-1213

Fort Freebies



Freebies are published on a first come, first serve basis. Commercial advertisements are prohibited. The deadline is noon Monday. Freebies are intended for personal household goods and privately owned property, and may only be submitted by active, retired or reserve component military members and civilian employees working on Fort Sam Houston. To submit paid classified ads or commercial advertising, contact Prime Time at 453-3300. To submit a Fort Freebie, e-mail to: news.leader@amedd.army.mil or fax to 221-1198. Ensure your military/Fort Sam Houston civil service status, phone number and name appears on request.

- For Sale:** Baby Mini-Rex bunnies, 2 months old, males and females, different colors to choose from, \$20 each. Call Michelle at (210) 274-3331.

For Sale: 1961 Chevy 1/2- ton truck, short bed, 235 cu in motor 4-speed transmission. In restorable condition, does not run, \$2,000 as is. Call (210) 310-1967 after 5 p.m.

For Sale: Six - 350 thru 2,000 watt electrical transformers \$10 to \$40 each; multi-system VCR \$50; two Graco booster seats \$10 each. Call 826-8284.

For Sale: SPURS vs LA Clippers family pack of 4 tickets for game scheduled for March 4. SBC Arena Plaza level, great seats, \$200. Call 661-3051 after 5 p.m.

For Sale: Walnut color crib with mattress, matching sheets, safety pads, diaper hanging bag and mattress cover pad, \$150; baby swing with speed control, \$ 70. Call 916-3311 before 5 p.m. or 481-7098 after 6 p.m.

For Sale: Electric Lady Kenmore almond color dryer in excellent condition with Sears' maintenance agreement, \$150. Call Gordon or Jane at (210) 653-2922.

For Sale: One Class II trailer hitch w/drawbar and 2" ball, fits '91 thru 01 Ford Explorer (four door), \$80; one Class III trailer hitch w/wiring harness, fits '91 thru 01
- Ford Explorer (four door), \$80 or both for \$150. Call 655-5016.

For Sale: 1996 Honda Odyssey LX, automatic, rear air, power windows and mirrors, tilt steering, cruise control, alarm system, disappearing rear back seat equipped for towing a small trailer, \$8,500.00 obo. Call 646-7371.

For Sale: "Pop-Up" Trailer, king and queen beds, stove, refrigerator, screened patio, shower, and commode, well maintained in excellent condition, \$4,500 Call 499-0298 after 5 p.m.

For Sale: Bird cage for large bird, wrought iron, 7 ft. height by 3 ft. wide by 2 ft. deep, \$275; Magic Chef refrigerator, 4.4 cubic ft., \$60; work bench, metal frame, 4 ft. wide by 2 ft. deep, full width drawer, top/bottom shelves, \$60. Call 659-1120.

For Sale: 1992 Ford Conversion van, loaded, electronic rust prevention, TV/VCR, etc., \$2,395; 1985 Honda Accord Hatchback, A/C needs repair, \$895; portable basketball backboard with new net, \$39. Call 659-6741.

For Sale: GE refrigerator, excellent condition, \$400. Glass top sofa table, X and O design, \$85. Call 930-6167.

Wanted: Used Rainbow vacuum cleaner, in good, working condition. Call 659-6741.

Career Clips



The Army Career and Alumni Program office provides numerous services to eligible people in transition including job assistance. Information on these and other positions is available to ACAP customers in the ACAP office, Bldg. 2264 or call 221-1213.

- Phlebotomist** - San Antonio. Local office is seeking an experienced phlebotomist with at least one-year experience. Must have working knowledge of pediatrics and geriatrics.
- Avionics Tech II** - San Antonio. Repair avionics equipment components according to FCC, FAA and company policies and procedures. Must possess knowledge and skill to bench test and repair aircraft avionics test equipment and systems.
- Quality Improvement Coordinator/LVN** - San Antonio. Assist with coordination of the activities of Quality Improvement under the direction of the QI Specialist. Gathers QI data from medical records, formulation of statistical data pertinent to the review and report formatting.
- Staff Therapist** - San Antonio. Staff therapist needed for a caseload of abused and neglected children in the custody of the state. Potential for additional contract work for any clients taken on in addition to maximum caseload.





Community events

“Cowardy Custard” at Harlequin Dinner Theatre, now through March 22

The Harlequin Dinner Theatre will present “Cowardy Custard,” a musical revue featuring the words and music of Noel Coward, now through March 22. Prices are \$26.95 on Friday and Saturday and \$23.95 on Wednesday and Thursday. There are discounts for military. Performances are Wednesday through Saturday evenings with the house opening for cocktails and salad bar at 6:15 p.m. Dinner is served from 6:30 to 7:30 and curtain time is 8 p.m. For reservations, call (210) 222-9694 or come to the theatre in advance. The box office is open Monday through Friday from noon to 5 p.m. and Saturdays from 1 to 5 p.m. Theatre is handicapped accessible.

SAROA St. Patrick’s Day Dinner and Dance, March 6

The San Antonio Chapter of the Military Retired Officers Association of America, formerly known as The Retired Officers Association, will celebrate St. Patrick's Day with a dinner and dance on March 6 at 6:30 p.m. at the Fort Sam Houston Golf Course. Music will be provided by Betty & Eric. The cost is \$18 per person. For more information and reservations, call 228-9955.

S.A. Commemoration to honor Korean War Veterans, March 8

A ceremony will be held March 8 at 2 p.m. at La Villita Assembly Hall, San Antonio, to honor Korean War Veterans. The ceremony will feature a memorial wreath laying, the presentation of the Republic of Korea Korean War Service Medal to five Korean War Veterans, symbolically representing the five branches of the military. Also Korean War veterans will have the opportunity for to apply for the medal they earned more than 50 years ago.

For more information, call Rolf Bergmann at (703) 602-6828 or via e-mail at rolf.bergmann@hqda.army.mil.

AMEDD Museum curator to speak at ITC

The Institute of Texan Cultures will host an exhibit, speaker series and concert honoring photojournalists titled “Requiem.” Tom O. McMasters, curator of the U.S. Army Medical Department Museum, is featured in the speaker series and will discuss “Army Medicine in Vietnam,” on March 23 at 2 p.m.

Admission to the exhibit or any of the speaker programs is included with the regular ITC ticket purchase: \$5, adults; \$2, children (3-12 years); \$3, seniors (65 years or older); \$3, military personnel with ID; and free, children 2 years and under. For more information, call (210) 458-2330 or visit www.texancultures.utsa.edu.

Collective Protestant Gospel Service Women’s Workshop, March 28-30

A Collective Protestant Gospel Service Women’s workshop entitles “Let Go and let God” will be held March 28-30 at the Holiday Inn Select on NE Loop 410. Registration fee is \$30 and is due not later than March 2. For more information call Sister Barbara Clark at 666-2721.

Volunteers

Lackland Air Force Base seeks Puppy-walker volunteers

Lackland Air Force Base is looking for a few good

¿Que Pasa?

homes and is currently offering a unique opportunity for citizens of San Antonio to be forefront of Homeland Defense by volunteering to keep potential airport working dogs and military working dogs in their homes. If you would like to take advantage of this opportunity to support your Armed Forces, call 671-3686 or e-mail stewarthilliard@lackland.af.mil.

Calling all single soldiers to join BOSS

The Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers meetings are held on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of every month at 2:30 p.m. at the Hacienda Recitation Center. The BOSS committee was established at the installation to provide soldier input to the commander, who will use the committee’s recommendations to improve single soldiers’ Morale, Welfare and Recreation programs to enhance their quality of life. For more information contact BOSS president Spc. Jeffrey Briere at 637-2229 or stop by the Hacienda Recreation Center.

Free Dental Assistant Training offered

The 59th Dental Squadron is currently accepting application for the Red Cross Volunteer Dental Assistant Program. Family members of military and civilian employees who would like to become dental assistant are invited to apply for this free training opportunity. The intensive six-month program includes dental anatomy, dental materials, fourhanded dentistry and much more. Upon graduation students can take the state radiology test and be fully qualified to take dental x-rays. The next class begins April 14 and will be held Monday through Friday 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Kelly Dental Clinic. After three weeks of classroom training, student continue clinical training at the Kelly, Dunn or Mackown dental clinics. Applicants will be interviewed from March 10-14. Prospective candidate must be at least 18 years of age, have a high school diploma or GED and commit to six months training. For more information, call the Kelly Dental Flight at 925-6647 or 6648.

In the classroom

Primary Hand Receipt Holder’s Training, April 24

Material Management Section, Property Management Branch, Supply and Services Division, Readiness and Logistics Business Center will conduct Primary Hand Receipt Holder’s training from 8 to 10 a.m. on April 24, July 24, and Oct. 23. The training will be held at the MEDCOM Contracting Center Training Room, Bldg. 4197, located on 17th Street and Wilson Street. Class size is limited to 30 people. For reservations, call Charles E. Loma at 295-4308, Alicia Torres at 221-4067, or your hand receipt manager.

Cake Decorating Classes start March 6

A professional cake decorator will teach a four-week class on cake decorating at Churchill High School beginning March 6. Cost is \$54 plus a \$22 supply fee for cake sampling and cake decorating kit. For more information or to register, call the North East Community Education at 657-8866 or visit the Website www.neisd.net.

ESL classes taught at the Roadrunner

Free English as a Second Language classes are held on Fort Sam Houston at the Roadrunner Community Center. They are designed especially for foreign-born spouses to increase reading comprehension, vocabulary, and pronunciation. Classes are appropriate for beginner, intermediate and advanced students with individualized group instruction. The Army Community Service Relocation Assistance Program and the Region 20 Education Center sponsor classes. To register, call 221-2418.

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USO hosts All You Can Eat Dinners Saturday evenings

The USO is hosting an All You Can Eat Dinner every

Saturday at 6 p.m. Dinners are prepared and served by volunteers. Enjoy a great home cooked dinner and explore what downtown San Antonio has to offer or take advantage of free pool, ping-pong and foosball tales, movies, DVDs and game rooms. The USO is open to all military personnel and their families from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Wednesday, Thursday and Sunday and from 9 a.m. to 10:30 p.m. on Friday and Saturday. For information call Alan Denfeld, program director at 227-9373 or e-mail alandefeld@alamouso.org.

MOAA Scholarship Window Closes March 1

The Military Officers Association of America, Post Scholarship Program is offering \$1,000 individual scholarship grants to 100 family members of active duty personnel for the school year 2003-2004. The application is available at http://www.troa.org. Look for “Education Aid” on the opening page of the TROA Website. Deadline for submission is noon, EST on March 1.

Ten Star All-Star Basketball Camp

Applications are now being evaluated for the Ten Star All-Star Summer Basketball Camp for boys and girls ages 10 through 19. Past camp participants include Michael Jordan, Tim Duncan and Vince Carter. Players from 50 states and 8 foreign countries attended the 2002 Camp. Camps are held throughout the U.S.A. For a brochure call (704) 373-0873.

Cougar Pride Club has Fiesta Parade tickets on sale

The Cougar Pride Club has parade seat tickets available for the Fiesta 2003 Battle of Flowers Parade, which will be held on Friday, April 25 and the Fiesta Flambeau Parade, the evening of April 26. The seats are \$7 and are located along the 100 block of East Commerce Street between St. Mary's and Soledad streets.

To purchase tickets, call Kathy Maxwell at 832-8275 and leave a message so that your order will be filled correctly. You may also visit kmaxwell@fort-sam-houston.k12.txus or fax your order to 832-8408. Tickets may be picked up at the Fort Sam Houston Elementary School between 3:30 and 4:30 p.m. Cash only. All proceeds support Robert G. Cole Jr./Sr. High School.

Meetings

AER Fund Drive “Kick-off” Meeting, March 11

The 2003 Army Emergency Relief Fund Drive “kick-off” meeting will be held March 11, 10 a.m. at the Roadrunner Community Center, Bldg. 2797, Stanley Road. All project officers and key persons are required to attend. For more information call Ms. Tonsall, AER Officer at 221-1612.

Mom-To-Mom Breastfeeding Support Group

Join the Mom-To-Mom Breastfeeding Support Group on Wednesdays, 1-2 p.m., at the BAMC Pediatric Clinic Conference Room (ask for directions from pediatric clinic front desk). All San Antonio area military beneficiaries are welcome. For information call 916-1798.

MOMS Club of San Antonio Northeast

The MOMS Club of San Antonio—Northeast is a support group for stay-at-home moms and their children. The monthly meeting is held on the first Tuesday of every month, from 9:45 to 11:30 a.m. The club meets in San Antonio, at the St. Margaret Episcopal Church, 5310 Stahl Rd. Call Sandi for more information at 566-8162 or e-mail http://nemomsclub.tripod.com.

FSH Sergeant Major Association Meeting

The FSH Sergeants Major Association meets at the FSH NCO Club every third Thursday of the month at 6 p.m. Retired Sgt. Maj. Oscar R. Ramos, president of the Association invites all active duty and retired command sergeants major, sergeants major and master sergeants on the promotion list from all service branches to attend the meetings and social activities. For information, call Command Sgt. Maj. Paul Brown at 221-1676.